

Monorail Hoist Close Call

What Happened:

Recently, a 2-ton hoist fell from a monorail while lifting a piece of equipment at MSFC.

What Caused This:

The monorail system had originally been installed at Marshall during the 1960's with a 3-ton hoist. This particular monorail had a section of movable rail that was able to switch between a rail system inside the room to a rail system outside the room. There was a stop installed on the monorail to stop the 3-ton hoist if the movable rail section was moved. The 2-ton hoist was installed at a later date and was physically smaller than the larger hoist. It was unknown that the 2-ton hoist could move past the stop on the rail.

As the piece of equipment was being lifted, the hoist centered itself above the load. The 2-ton hoist then moved past the stop and fell from the monorail. Fortunately, there were no personal injuries and no reportable property damage.

Recommended Corrective Action:

- Procurement of all stationary lifting equipment must comply with the design/hardware requirements contained in NSS/GO 1740.9, "Safety Standards for Lifting Devices and Equipment", as required by Marshall Work Instruction MWI 6430.1, "Lifting Equipment and Operations".
- 2. The coordination of this function is the responsibility of the Facilities Engineering Department.
- 3. The Facilities Engineering Department must approve procurement or modifications of all stationary lifting equipment.
- 4. MWI 5100.1A, "Procurement Initiators Guide" requires compliance with MWI 6430.1, "Lifting Equipment and Operations".







These pictures only show the trolley - the hoist has been removed.